

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7692

S E C R E T MONROVIA 0233

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: LI

SUBJECT: U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

REF: (A) STATE 291277, (B) STATE 295468

1. WITH THE MEMBERS OF MY COUNTRY TEAM, I HAVE REVIEWED CAREFULLY U.S. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN LIBERIA. THIS REVIEW HAS ADDED TO MY CONVICTION THAT THIS DOCUMENT, WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE USG AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL, IS A UNIQUELY EFFECTIVE TOOL FOR US IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR TASKS HERE. IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE THAT WE ATTACH TO THIS DOCUMENT, WE HAVE SOME EXTENDED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISION.

2. FIRST, WE BELIEVE, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE LEVEL OF READERSHIP, THAT THE GOALS PAPER SHOULD BEGIN BY IDENTIFYING THE RESPONSIBILITIES EACH AMBASSADOR HAS THAT ARE UNIQUE TO HIS COUNTRY OF ASSIGNMENT; THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND A NEW SECTION I AS FOLLOWS:

I. MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING ADVANTAGES AND PRIVILEGES RELATING TO U.S. NATIONAL INTERESTS UNIQUE TO LIBERIA.

-- PROMOTE THE MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING PRIVILEGES AND SECRET

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ADVANTAGES GRANTED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA (GOL) WHICH ENHANCE U.S. ABILITY TO PROJECT ITS INFLUENCE IN AFRICA AND NEIGHBORING AREAS. THESE PRIVILEGES ARE

-- THE USE, GRANTED BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES, OF ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN EVENT OF A NATIONAL

EMERGENCY (IN ACTUAL FACT, THE AIRPORT REMAINS AVAILABLE TO US WITHOUT RESTRICTION FOR OPERATIONAL SUPPORT OF U.S. POLICY OBJECTIVES IN AFRICA).

-- THE RIGHT, PROVIDED IN A CONFIDENTIAL EXCHANGE OF NOTES, TO ESTABLISH MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AT THE PORT OF MONROVIA SHOULD THEY BECOME NECESSARY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.

-- MAINTENANCE OF A VOA RELAY STATION.

-- MAINTENANCE OF AN AREA TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE PROVIDING COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES FOR 26 OF OUR EMBASSIES IN AFRICA.

-- MAINTENANCE OF AN OMEGA NAVIGATIONAL STATION.

II. MAINTENANCE OF CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS. THIS SECTION WOULD BE IMPROVED, WE BELIEVE, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

-- TO THE FIRST PARAGRAPH IN REFTEL B, ADD "AND CULTURAL" AFTER "HISTORIC."

-- ADD TO THE SECOND PARAGRAPH "INCLUDING MEMBERS OF SECRET

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CONGRESS" AFTER "U.S. OFFICIALS" AND DELETE "ON THEIR TRIPS THROUGH AFRICA."

-- DELETE PARAGRAPH 4 SINCE WE HAVE NOW CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT RECONFIRMING THE STATUS OF ACS.

-- REPLACE THAT PARAGRAPH WITH THE FOLLOWING:

"NEGOTIATE WITH THE GOL AN EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE FOR THE TRANSFER OF MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR OMEGA NAVIGATIONAL STATION FROM AMERICAN TO LIBERIAN PERSONNEL AND WORK TO INSURE SMOOTH TRANSFER OF SUCH RESPONSIBILITY."

III. A CLOSER SECURITY RELATIONSHIP.
WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING CHANGES IN THIS SECTION:

-- DELETE THE FIRST PARAGRAPH WHICH, UNDER OUR SUGGESTED CHANGES, IS NOW COVERED AT THE OUTSET.

IV. INCREASED TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

-- TO THE FIRST PARAGRAPH, AFTER THE WORDS "IRON ORE,"
ADD "RUBBER AND TIMBER."

- SINCE U.S. AND LIBERIA ARE BOTH CATEGORY A IN IMCO AND
GIVEN RECENT HISTORY OF CARGO PREFERENCE LEGISLATION, WE
RECOMMEND PARAGRAPH TWO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"COOPERATE CLOSELY ON MARITIME MATTERS IN IMCO TO
IMPROVE THE STANDARDS OF OIL TANKER SAFETY."

-- DELETE THE THIRD PARAGRAPH SINCE WE HAVE NOW
NEGOTIATED A NEW BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT WITH THE GOL.

V. PROGRESS TOWARD LIBERIAN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
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-- CHANGE THE FOURTH PARAGRAPH TO READ "ENCOURAGE
LIBERIA'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO ECOWAS."

-- ADD A NEW PARAGRAPH: "MONITOR LIBERIA'S EXPENDI-
TURES FOR THE 1979 OAU SUMMIT MEETING, PARTICULARLY AS
TO THEIR EFFECT ON LIBERIA'S FISCAL AND FINANCIAL
STABILITY.

VI. U.S. MISSION LIBERIA'S REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES
WE BELIEVE THE GOALS PAPER WOULD BE IMPROVED BY TAKING
NOTE OF THE RATHER EXTENSIVE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES
OF VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION AND RECOMMEND THE
FOLLOWING LANGUAGE UNDER THIS HEADING:

-- MONITOR THE PERFORMANCE OF REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES
OF ELEMENTS OF THE U.S. MISSION (AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICE, AREA TELECOMMUNICA-
TIONS OFFICE, OFFICE OF DEFENSE ATTACHE, VOICE OF
AMERICA, AND FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY) TO INSURE EFFICIENCY
OF SERVICES TO OTHER MISSIONS AND PROGRAMS IN AFRICA.
CARTER

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